

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 26087 081525Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIA-06  
EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 H-01 SP-02 L-03 DHA-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 NSC-05 SS-15 AF-10 /102 W  
-----014191 082257Z /70

R 081519Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8277  
INFO USMISSION USUN  
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 26087

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: AORG, PORG, SOPN, UNESCO  
SUBJECT: UNESCO: MASS MEDIA - GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

REF: (A) STATE 208528; (B) STATE 175193; (C) PARIS 25853

1. PERMDEL REALIZED THAT DEPT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED REF-  
TEL (A) BEFORE REPLYING TO SAN SALVADOR IN REFTEL (B),  
ON CURRENT HAPPENINGS IN MASS MEDIA FIELD, BUT WOULD  
LIKE TO TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND INTERESTED PARTIES  
THAT (FORMERLY) SO-CALLED "COMMISSION OF WISEMEN" (PER  
REFTEL (A), PARA 4) HAS RECENTLY AND OFFICIALLY BEEN  
ENDOWED WITH TITLE OF "INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON COM-  
MUNICATIONS PROBLEMS".

2. WE BELIEVE IT ALSO IMPORTANT TO KEEP RECORD STRAIGHT  
THAT WHILE USG HAS SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS COM-  
MISSION, THE USG WILL NOT, REPEAT, NOT PARTICI-  
PATE IN ITS PROCEEDINGS. RATHER, A PRIVATE US CITIZEN,  
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ELIE ABEL, HAS BEEN INVITED TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE  
COMMISSION, IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY, A CONDITION WHICH  
WILL APPLY - TECHNICALLY - TO ALL 16 IN-  
DIVIDUALS DRAWN FROM THE VARIOUS GEO-POLITICAL REGIONS  
OF THE WORLD. PERMDEL BELIEVES THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE  
TO PAY HOMMAGE TO THIS CONCEPT.

3. FINALLY, WE BELIEVE THAT PRACTICE OF POINTING OUT DRAFT DECLARATION ON MASS MEDIA AS "SOVIET-INSPIRED" AS A PART OF GENERAL BRIEFINGS ON MASS MEDIA (E.G., REFTEL (B), PART B, PARA 1) SHOULD BE AVOIDED, EXCEPT PERHAPS WITH AUDIENCES WHICH ARE PARTICULARLY RECEPTIVE TO THIS HARDLINE VERBIAGE. IT IS TRUE THAT AFTER HAVING BEEN FIRST PROPOSED TO UNESCO BY ALVA MYRDAL, THE SOVIETS STRONGLY SUPPORTED THIS EFFORT FOR THEIR OWN POLITICAL PURPOSES. NONETHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS CHARACTERIZATION HAS BEEN AMPLY USED, AND THAT THE DRAFT DECLARATION'S FULL TITLE GIVES CLEAR INDICATION OF SOVIETS' RELATIONSHIP TO ISSUE. BUT SOVIET INTERESTS ASIDE, THE MAJORITY OF UNESCO'S MEMBERS, INCLUDING MANY THIRD WORLD STATES WHO HAVE NO PARTICULAR SYMPATHY FOR THE SOVIETS, ARE SOLD ON IDEA OF HAVING A DECLARATION WHICH DRAWS ATTENTION TO RESPONSIBILITY AS WELL AS RIGHTS IN THE INFORMATION FIELD. IN OUR VIEW, BEATING "SOVIET-INSPIRED" IDEA TO DEATH IN OUR TALKS WITH THESE THIRD WORLD STATES AND OTHERS, WOULD SEEM TO BE TARRING THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE DESIRABILITY OF SOME STATEMENT ON "RESPONSIBILITIES" WITH SAME BRUSH AS THAT APPLIED TO SOVIETS. THIS MIGHT GIVE RISE TO IDEA (SO OFTEN HAMMERED ON BY CHINESE) THAT THIRD WORLD INTERESTS AGAIN FALLING VICTIM TO "BIG POWER RIVALRY", THIS TIME WITH US AS CULPRIT. WITH VERY CAREFUL SECRETARIAT PREPARATION TO KEEP LID ON THIS ISSUE, AND CONSEQUENT GOOD  
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CHANCES TO ARRIVE AT A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION AT 20TH GC, IT WOULD SEEM AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING, THAT WE CAN DOWNPLAY THE RHETORIC.  
HARTMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION MEDIA, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PARIS26087  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 208528, 77 STATE 175193, 77 PARIS 25853  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UNESCO: MASS MEDIA - GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING  
**TAGS:** AORG, PORG, SOPN, UNESCO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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